



THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 7, 1895

As the statement that the delay in the President's message was caused by a dispatch from Consul Lee, to the effect that the Americans in Cuba would be massacred if war were declared before they could get away, came from the same source that described as "dramatic," the cabinet's consideration of that dispatch and the "palpitating" hearts with which its reading was listened to, considerable doubt attaches to its authenticity. General Lee has lived long enough in Cuba to know that the Spaniards there are just as civilized and as Christianized as the Americans now on that island, and that the latter, pending their departure, would be in no more danger than Spaniards would be in this country if the two nations were at war. The Spaniards are not barbarous and heathen savages, and General Lee is as well aware of that fact as any body else. He knows that he nor any other American in Cuba is in danger, and if he were, he is too brave a man to alarm his country by calling for aid.

The U. S. House of Representatives on Tuesday passed the Ransom claim, from Philadelphia, most of the democratic members voting for it, though even some of its republican advocates conceded it was fraudulent, and though the chief ground urged for its payment was that John Roach had died poor. But the same body had refused to pass the Lee claim, from Virginia, though it had been approved by the U. S. Court of Claims, and on the same day the Roach bill passed, when the claim of the Richmond Locomotive Works was before the House, its passage was prevented by Northern republican dilatory motions. It was ably advocated by Messrs. Rixey of Virginia, Robb of Missouri, and Bartlett of Georgia, but had to go over until next private bill day.

A GENERAL view of the business of the country induces the belief that flagrant war could hardly make it worse than it is. Why, of course it couldn't, and the worst of it is that it is growing worse day by day, and worse still, than the future as intently as possible, nothing to indicate the slightest improvement can be discerned. Some people lacking in understanding believe that war would produce an improvement, but wise men are convinced that no matter whether war be of short or long duration, or what its result may be, its effect upon this country could only be deleterious. War is only less injurious to the victors than to the vanquished.

If the wretches, desperadoes and brutes of this country would go to the war and be killed, there might be some consolation in it. But as bounties now substitutes have not yet been resorted to, they of course will not go, but let better and braver men take their places and die of yellow fever or Spanish bullets. At Shawneetown, the scene of the late flood, a negro ruffian tried to break open a sufferer's trunk last Tuesday, and outrageous robberies have become so frequent there that the victims have organized into companies and are protecting the little property they saved with Winchester rifles.

COL. FRED. GRANT says "Congress is forcing President McKinley into an unnecessary war." Not only unnecessary, but absolutely senseless war. Even if the Maine were blown up by Spaniards, which, however, millions of disinterested and unprejudiced people cannot believe, no fair-minded man has as yet attributed such a crime to the Spanish government, which, therefore, cannot be held responsible for it. There is little doubt that if Col. Grant's father were President, Congress would not force him into a war in which there is neither justice, equity, law, nor even "humanity."

THE PRESENT hard times have decreased the price of almost every thing except that of the necessities of life and war material, which has advanced considerably. At a stock sale in Philadelphia yesterday the famous stallion Director, that once sold for \$75,000, only brought \$1,275 under the hammer, Red Wilkes \$600, and Director Moore, half brother to Nancy Hanks, \$1,225. The government of this country is slowly, but surely bringing the people thereof to desperate straits.

ALL THE striking cotton factory hands in Maine have gone back to work at reduced wages, after losing three month's pay. The wisdom of their strike is conspicuously apparent, but hardly more so than that of many others. When work is scarce the man who has to depend upon his labor for bread and meat for himself and his family, who gives up a permanent job to risk the contingencies of a strike, is sadly deficient in common sense.

A DISPATCH from Havana in a morning filibuster newspaper reports Gen. Fitzhugh Lee as saying to some Americans there: "Guess we had better be getting our traps together." If General Lee said any such thing, he has learned

to talk a new way since he left Virginia. All the news that reaches here from American sources in Cuba and Spain—that is printed in filibuster newspapers—must be taken with many grains of salt.

AT ALL the recent political elections, where contests were made, the democrats made great gains, even in the towns and cities of Mr. Hanna's own State. Of course in the New England State of Connecticut it was useless for the democrats to make a fight. There is a vast difference between a beggar and a king, but not greater than that between a popular election in which money is used and one in which it is not.

THE CUBAN JUNTA formally announces that if this country shall attempt to intervene between the insurgents and the loyal people of Cuba, without previously recognizing the independence of the former, they will fight it as vigorously as they have resisted Spain. Those who know anything at all about the Cuban insurgents are confident that this country will rue the day it interfered in their behalf.

THAT WAR is a luxury which poor people can ill afford, has been made a present object lesson by the fact that though active hostilities with Spain have not yet commenced, the price of beef, sugar, coffee, coal and other articles which poor people have to buy, has already advanced considerably.

FROM WASHINGTON

Correspondence of the ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE, WASHINGTON, April 7.

I am started to-day that the action of the representatives of the great powers of Europe framed at the British Embassy Tuesday night was communicated to the United States government last evening; also that Russia through her representative at Washington joins the other five great powers, namely, Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria and Italy. They called on the President to-day trying to avert war. Their call was quite brief.

Sir Julian Pauncefote, as representative of the powers, presented the following: "The undersigned representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy and Russia, duly authorized in that behalf, address in the name of their respective governments, a pressing appeal to the feelings of humanity and moderation of the President and of the American people, in their existing differences with Spain. They earnestly hope that further negotiations will lead to an agreement which, while securing the maintenance of peace, will accord all necessary guarantees for the re-establishment of order in Cuba. The powers do not doubt that the humanitarian and purely disinterested character of this representation will be fully recognized and appreciated by the American nation."

President McKinley replied as follows: "The government of the United States recognizes the good will which has prompted the friendly communication of the representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy and Russia, as set forth in the address of your excellencies, and shares the hope therein expressed that the outcome of the situation in Cuba may be the maintenance of peace between the United States and Spain by affording the necessary guarantees for the re-establishment of order in the island, so terminating the chronic condition of disturbance there which so deeply injures the interests and menaces the tranquility of the American nation by the character and consequences of the struggle thus kept up at our doors, besides shocking its sentiment of humanity. The government of the United States appreciates the humanitarian and disinterested character of the communication now made on behalf of the powers named, and for its part is confident that equal appreciation will be shown for its own earnest and unselfish endeavors to fulfill a duty to humanity by ending a situation the indefinite prolongation of which has become insufferable."

The ambassadors then went over to the State Department. They were headed by Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador. The call was by appointment, for they were at once shown into the diplomatic room of the State Department where they were joined by Secretary Sherman and Assistant Secretary Day.

Shortly afterwards Judge Day left the State Department, declining to say more than to refer inquirers to the address of the ambassadors and the reply of the President.

Representative Wheeler, of Alabama, to-day introduced in the House a resolution extending the thanks of Congress to Consul-General Lee for the courage, efficiency and good judgment he has displayed in the performance of his duties as Consul-General at Havana. Representative Wheeler and Gen. Lee are life-long friends. They are both graduates of West Point and were at the military academy at the same time.

The Spanish Minister has received a telegram from the Governor General of Cuba to the effect that all rumors of impending trouble in Havana are absolutely false. Almost the only reliable Spanish news that reaches here now comes through the Spanish legation.

The present arrangement in the Senate is to discuss the Cuban resolution in executive session as it is believed there will be considerable difference of opinion as to the form of the resolution. Up to noon to-day nothing had occurred which will have any bearing upon the President's message as already prepared, nor will it be changed in any important particular save in the unlooked for event of submission on the part of Spain to all the demands of this government.

A favorable report was authorized to-day by the Senate committee on military affairs on the bill providing for the reorganization of the infantry arm of the army on the three battalion formation.

A small cotery of the republicans of the House who fear that there may be a request for further delay in the sending in of the President's message on Monday are canvassing their side of the House and obtaining the signatures of all republicans who will on Monday if the message does not go to Congress on that day join with the democrats to overthrow the Speaker or support any other revolutionary action necessary to get the question before the House. Mr. Lorimer and Mr. Mann, of Illinois, and others are at the head of the move-

ment. They say they will have over fifty pledged votes. Twenty-four votes with the democrats and populists are a majority of the House.

The House committee on foreign affairs had Mr. Quesada, of the Cuban junta, before them to-day. He said if the United States should intervene without recognizing the independence of the Cuban republic, it would be a virtual declaration of war against the insurgents as well as the Spaniards.

A cablegram from Consul General Lee received this morning announces that 200 Americans have taken their departure from the island and that all is quiet in Havana. After a conference with the President, Representative Grosvenor stated to-day that there would be no change of any importance at least, in the message intended for submission yesterday unless there is a change of facts, which was not at all likely.

Assistant Secretary Day, after a conference with the President this morning, said he expected Consul General Lee would leave Cuba by Saturday. It had been expected that the Cabinet meeting at Madrid would be an important one and that its action would be highly significant on the diplomatic situation, but General Woodford has wired that there was no important action taken and that the meeting had adjourned without accomplishing any material step that would lead to any change in the status or throw new light on the situation.

Senator Gray of Delaware, a member of the Senate committee on foreign relations, was with the President some time to-day. He says he believes all the Americans who intend to get out of Cuba will be out safely in due time and that both General Woodford at Madrid and General Lee at Havana will not be at their posts after the opening of next week. He thought the precautions taken by this government and the threatening state of affairs at Havana with relation to the American citizens thought to be imperilled tended to stimulate the Spanish government to take a safe policy.

The Senator said he did not believe there was any likelihood of armistice between Spain and the insurgents. Notwithstanding the fact that the Christian people of the whole world are praying against war there was little outward evidence at the White House to-day of a grave crisis. All the forenoon workmen were decorating the East Room and the handsome apartments used in the entertainment of executive guests in preparation for a luncheon to be given later in the day by Mrs. McKinley in honor of the party of ladies who have been her guests for some time past.

Democratic Congressmen from Ohio say the democrats of their State at the late election there swept everything before them, but that none of the republican and nothing newspapers of the State could find a sufficient importance to mention it. One of them says "we carried eleven towns that had never before gone democratic since the days of Christopher Columbus."

If Congressmen Walker of Virginia can so easily find it to vote the Wise-Young contested election case from Virginia taken up by the House this afternoon, and also have the Brown Swanson case brought to a vote in his committee to-morrow.

Mr. Morgan, of Virginia, tried to have the bill for the relief of J. Henry Biles of Virginia taken up in the House to-day, but Mr. Hay of his State objected. Mr. Walker's intense hatred of everything democratic in his own State provokes opposition to everything he favors.

M. P. CONFERENCE.

The seventh session of the Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, which opened yesterday in the Lafayette Avenue Church, in Baltimore, placed itself on record as being decidedly in favor of peace by the adoption of the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That we are deeply concerned about the grave questions now threatening a disturbance of the peace of our country; that we deprecate the dreadful evils of war, and pray that our merciful God will spare us the awful scourge."

"Resolved, That we pray that the God of all peace will guide the President and the Congress in such counsels, and the adoption of such measures as will lead to a peaceful adjustment of the questions between this country and Spain."

On motion the resolutions were immediately wired to President McKinley, the course of a prayer at the morning session, Dr. J. J. Murray prayed substantially as set forth in the resolutions that "the country be free from the counsels of rash and corrupt men, and that we may be spared from the horrors of war."

President A. D. Melvin read his annual report. He said: "The advanced reports that I have received from pastors do not indicate any material change in the financial conditions of our churches, in some places, is far below what it ought to be, and yet, there are unmistakable evidences of improvement."

President Melvin was re-elected for the ensuing year. Rev. Dorsey Blake was elected secretary.

Rev. F. T. Benson was appointed on the committee on Christian endeavor.

TO GUARANTEE THE DYNASTY.

The New York Herald's Washington correspondent says: The information cabled from Madrid yesterday afternoon to the effect that a cabinet crisis in Madrid is imminent is what was expected here in case the Queen yielded to the pressure brought to bear upon her.

France, Italy and Austria. I understand from absolutely reliable sources here that the Queen has given out about the safety of the dynasty in case she would issue a proclamation providing for an armistice which would end the war and with the ultimate end of giving the Cubans their independence. The diplomat who gave me this information says he expects to see a proclamation promulgated by the Queen to-day declaring in favor of an armistice, with conditions which would be acceptable to the insurgents and to the United States. It remains to be seen what view the President will take of the new proposal, since conferring with the Congressional members yesterday evening the President has received a lengthy cablegram from Minister Woodford containing a new proposition from the Madrid government.

This is now under consideration. No information will be given out about this latest dispatch from Minister Woodford, but it is believed to be confirmatory of the afternoon press dispatches stating that the Queen Regent had taken the matter in her own hands and decided to comply with the original demands of President McKinley for an armistice.

COURT OF APPEALS.

These cases were before the Court of Appeals in Baltimore yesterday.

Bosson's trustee and others vs. Fuller and others. Argued and submitted.

Lewis's administrator vs. Hicks. Argued for plaintiff in error and submitted.

The next cases to be called are Bull vs. Evans & Co., and Garber vs. Breese & Son.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, April 7.
SENATE.

Comparatively little interest was manifested by the people in the proceedings of the Senate. When the Vice President's gavel fell at noon the galleries were scarcely half filled and the attendance on the floor was smaller than it had been for several days.

Mr. Allison moved that when the Senate adjourn to-day it be to meet on Monday next and the motion was agreed to.

Consideration of the sundry civil bill was then resumed, the question pending being upon an amendment offered by Mr. Pettus to appropriate \$200,000 for the improvement of the Mobile harbor in order that warships might reach the wharves to coal and to receive other supplies. It had been preceded by the Alabama Senator as an emergency war measure.

Mr. Allison made a point of order against the amendment. He said the rule to exclude this amendment was entirely proper. He had been given to understand, he said, that if this amendment were adopted other similar amendments, all based upon the idea of national defense, would be offered. This would open up the entire field of river and harbor improvements. To this appropriation the appropriations committee was unanimously opposed.

Mr. Morgan made a sharp attack upon the appropriations committee, charging that the committee exercised too great power. It usurped power that did not legally belong to it.

I want to say to the chairman of the committee (Mr. Allison), for whom I have always had the greatest respect and whose conduct of the affairs of the committee I have admired for many years, I want to say that he had better look out or the Senate will dissolve that committee and distribute its business among the various committees of the Senate and I will be one to help do it.

"As for the threat implied by the Senator from Alabama," interjected Mr. Allison hotly, "if I know myself I do not crave the work that is now imposed upon me by the Senate. If the Senate wants to dissolve the committee it may do so without delay."

Mr. Morgan, resuming the discussion, said that already we heard of a great coal combine that is to control the price of coal to be supplied to the government at southern ports. He realized, he said, the opportunity for such a reasonable spoliation of the government.

He pointed out some of the advantages of opening the coal fields of the South by the improvement suggested in the pending amendment. The government would thus be enabled to obtain its coal in any quantities at reasonable rates near the theatre of action in case of hostilities. "I do not know, Mr. President, whether war is coming or not," said he. "I have never myself done anything that might involve this country in war; but it seems to me that the sworn testimony now before the Senate is sufficiently strong to compel us to strike in defense of the honor and dignity of the country and in memory of our dead seamen shrouded in the mud of Havana harbor. I am willing to vote for a declaration that may involve us in hostilities because I believe that we have a just cause."

Mr. Morgan was of opinion that if a railroad company had brought the amendment into the Senate it would have passed without a murmur of dissent from the committee. Mr. Allison had a telegram read from Secretary Alger saying: "It is better not to open any deep harbors that would admit warships. It would make simply one more place to guard."

On this telegram the chair overruled Mr. Allison's point of order and submitted the question to the Senate whether the amendment should be considered.

An aye and no vote was taken on this proposition and resulted in the negative, 19 to 33. The vote had the effect of ruling the amendment out of order.

Mr. Gray offered an amendment providing for an appropriation of \$205,846 for continuing the improvement of the harbor at Wilmington, Del., and it was agreed to.

Mr. Walthall then presented resolutions on the death of his late colleague, Senator George.

HOUSE.

Little evidence of excitement existed when the House met at noon. The public galleries were crowded, but yawning yawns showed in the reserved galleries. Members seemed to have settled down to the conviction that they would have to wait with what patience they could the developments until Monday, when the message, it is said, is to go to Congress. The Chaplain prayed fervently for peace.

Mr. Hull, chairman of the military affairs committee, realizing the opposition to certain features of the army reorganization bill, stated before the consideration of that bill was resumed that at the proper time he should move to strike out everything except the first two sections providing for the three battalion formation. The action providing for the expansion of the regular army in time of war to 104,000 would be stricken out.

Mr. Salazar, who supported the bill as it was proposed to modify it, made a vigorous pro-Cuban speech. If Cuban independence were recognized, he declared, Cuba would soon be free. He declared that the majority in Congress and the President little understood the intense feeling of indignation among the people of the country over the Maine affair and the delay in the calling of Spain to account. "Oh! for one day of Andrew Jackson in the White House," he concluded. "He would say onward the fleet, forward the whole line and let the battle cry be: 'Cuba must be free.'"

Mr. Lewis vigorously assailed the bill. He not only charged that it was part of a programme to increase the regular army in time of peace, but he declared that the three battalion formation had proven a failure and had been so characterized by the commander-in-chief of the British army.

BUCKLIN'S ARNICA SALVE.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Ernest L. Allen.

It is a great leap from the old fashioned doses of blue-mass and nauseous physics to the pleasant little pills known as Dr. Williams' Little Early Risers. They cure constipation, sick headache and biliousness. Charles G. Lennon.

An attack of the Salvation Army was bitten by a dog in West End yesterday evening.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Democrats are encouraged by the result of the elections in Long Island, N. Y., and towns yesterday.

The ensign was formally taken down from the battleship Maine yesterday and her official existence ended.

Gold democrats of Boston have abandoned the big dinner planned in opposition to that tendered Bryan by the silver men.

Gov. Dyer, republican, was yesterday re-elected Governor of Rhode Island, and a republican legislature was elected which will re-elect Senator Aldrich.

Charles Simon, one of the best known business men of Baltimore, and senior member of the dry goods firm of Chas. Simon's Sons Company, died yesterday aged 81 years.

Municipal elections were held in every city and town in Arkansas yesterday. Only in three or four instances were the regular democratic nominees opposed, and as far as heard from, the regular democrats won.

The Mississippi river at Memphis has reached a stage of 36.3 feet and it bids fair to almost attain the height of last year's flood. The St. Francis bottoms are reported badly overflowed and railroad traffic interfered with.

The arrival of the steamer Centennial at Victoria, B. C., resulted in a disappointment for those persons who had believed that a message was on it from Andrew, who left Dana's Island, Spitzbergen, July 11, 1897, to try and reach the North pole by balloon.

The great stallions Director and Red Wilkes were sold at auction yesterday at Colmar, Pa. Director brought only \$1,275, and Mr. Moore is said to have paid \$75,000 for him. Red Wilkes sold for \$600. Director Moore, four years old, half brother of Nancy Hanks, was sold for \$1,225.

The engineering corps has begun operations for placing submarine mines in the entrances to New York and other harbors along the Atlantic coast. Detachments of engineers were yesterday sent to Portland, Me., Boston, Charles, S. C., Hampton Roads, Port Wadsworth and Fort Hancock to lay cables and electrical apparatus for the mooring and operation of controlled mines.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

A number of fine horses were sold in Lexington yesterday at from \$85 to \$65 each.

Mr. Peter Harmer died at his home in Front Royal on Tuesday, aged 72 years.

Miss Mary William Pearson, one of the oldest residents of Fredericksburg, died very suddenly on Tuesday, aged 85 years.

Mr. S. C. Hurt, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Lynchburg, died there last night after a brief illness, aged 79 years.

State Senator John N. Opie, of Staunton, yesterday announced his candidacy for the democratic nomination to Congress from the tenth district.

Judge R. H. Turner has sold his farm on the north branch of the Shenandoah river, near Buckton, Warren county, to F. K. Weaver, of Cedarville, for \$3,000.

The Governor has refused to interfere in the case of Isaac Taylor, of Mecklenburg county, who was sentenced to hang on May 20 for the murder of a woman.

The report of the sale of the Natural bridge property a few days ago, was incorrect. Mr. Carruth, of Boston, has not purchased the property yet, but negotiations are pending for the sale.

Owing to threats of lynching, Wm. H. Snow, Jr., who shot and killed Harry McVeigh, was taken to Lynchburg yesterday from Campbell Court House, where he had been placed in jail.

Capt. Charles H. Taylor, traffic manager of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, who has been very ill for some weeks, is steadily improving. He is at Swanee Springs, Florida.

Mr. Abner W. Hodson, an aged and prominent citizen of near Round Hill, Frederick county, went to Winchester yesterday on business in apparent good health, and about 10 o'clock was taken suddenly ill and died in a few hours.

A dispatch from Richmond says: Fitzhugh Lee, Jr., eldest son of Consul-General Lee, who intended leaving yesterday to join his father in Havana, received a telegram from the latter saying, "Hold the fort for further orders."

The indications from advices received in Richmond last night are that the cold snap of Tuesday night seriously damaged the fruit in all sections of the State. It is thought all the fruit in the extreme south western counties is killed.

Jim Davenport was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment in Charlotte county yesterday for attempted assault on Miss Waddell in the southern part of that county several weeks ago. He was kept in the Danville jail for safe-keeping up to the time of trial.

Mr. John Melin, who has been connected with the Virginia Military Institute for several years in the capacity of a bandsman, with his family left Lexington yesterday for Washington. Later Mr. Melin, accompanied by his uncle, will go to the Klondike.

Judge Hanckel, of the Corporation Court of Norfolk, has decided that the bond of \$5,000 of Joseph P. Cannon, in the famous conspiracy case involving Cannon's wife's honor, was a legal bond and was, therefore, forfeited by the non-appearance of Cannon in obedience to the court of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the case, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

On the morning of Feb. 20, 1895, I was sick with typhoid fever and lay in bed until May 31st, when I got a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. The first application of it relieved me almost entirely from the pain and the second afforded complete relief. In a short time I was able to be up and about again. A. T. MORRIS, Luverne, Minn. Sold by H. J. Janney, Druggist 401 King Street.

The farmer, the mechanic and the bicycle rider are liable to unexpected cuts and bruises. Dr. Williams' Hazel Salve is the best. It keeps on hand. It heals quickly, best thing to keep on hand. It is a well known cure for piles. Charles G. Lennon.

Thousands of sufferers from grippe have been restored to health by One Minute Cure. It quickly cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, grippe, asthma and all throat and lung diseases. Charles G. Lennon.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

As stated in yesterday's Gazette the President's message on Cuban affairs probably will not be transmitted to Congress until next week, and there is a possibility that it may not be sent then in the form in which it was written for transmission yesterday.

There was another reason for withholding the message beside Consul General Lee's advice to the President that it would be impossible to get all the Americans out of Cuba before Sunday, and that they would be in grave peril if the message were sent to Congress before their departure from the island. The second reason was the President's hope in view of developments between the United States and Spain could be adjusted without resort to war, the Spanish government having manifested a disposition to make concessions which it had heretofore refused to consider.

The aspect of affairs is considerably more pacific and sufficient to renew the hope of the President in a solution of the Cuban question satisfactory to the American people, and achieved without bloodshed. It is expected that between now and Monday a clearer light will be thrown on the future by action at Madrid, of which one important feature, at least, is the declaration of an armistice by the Queen Regent of Spain. This armistice, it is expected, will lead to ultimate independence of Cuba from Spanish rule. Much will depend upon the insurgents.

The President is thought to be still the master of the situation, as far as Congress is concerned, and if further postponement is considered necessary it may be acquiesced in by Congress. There were expressions of discontent on the part of republican members of the House at the delay in transmitting the message, and a conference attended by about fifty republican Representatives was held after the adjournment of the House. Vigorous speeches denouncing the policy of delay were made and it was decided to appoint a committee to watch the situation.

The improved condition of affairs is reflected at the White House, among cabinet officers and at the embassies and legations, including the Spanish legation at Madrid. The establishment of Senator Polo said that while he could not disclose any of the information reaching him in an official character, yet he felt that the strain of a few hours ago was materially relieved and that the prospects for peace looked much brighter.

It is semi-officially announced at Rome that the Spanish government has accepted the principle of an armistice with the Cuban insurgents, as proposed by the Pope. President McKinley's reply is now awaited by the Pope. Upon it depends the possibility of continuing the negotiations at Madrid and Washington. It is believed in Rome that the powers will take joint action to prevent a rupture. Another dispatch from Rome says: "I learn that President McKinley's answer to the Pope's suggestion for the preservation of peace is that an armistice is a question regarding Spain and Cuba alone, but between Spain and the United States another question is pending and must receive a distinctly submissive conciliatory answer from Spain."

A large number of American refugees left Cuba yesterday on steamers.

Consul-General Lee assured the correspondent of the Associated Press yesterday that he had received no instructions to leave Havana.

The military element is said to be threatening a cabinet crisis in Madrid. Senator Sagasta, according to his custom, will attempt to conciliate the rival tendencies of his cabinet, his intention being to endeavor to keep all of his present colleagues until the assembling of Parliament.

VIRGINIA TO ASK FOR \$112,000.—A dispatch to the New York Herald from Richmond says: When Virginia was richer and more powerful and the United States treasury was well nigh empty this State lent the government \$112,000 to carry on the war of 1812. Now Virginia is sadly in need of funds to put troops in the field to defend her own coast in case of war.

The United States has always set up some counter claim when the question of paying its debt to Virginia was brought up. But the time is ripe, according to the opinion of many, for a demand for justice to be done the Old Dominion.

There has been some correspondence with Virginia Senators and Representatives and in a day or two a bill will probably be offered in Congress directing the President to pay \$112,000 to the Governor of Virginia, to be used as he may see fit in case of war. It is believed such a measure would go through both houses without objection.

PRESIDENT AND THE POPE.—A dispatch from Madrid says: The Imperial publishes a Rome telegram saying that the text of the papal telegram to President McKinley was as follows:

"As the head of the religion of fraternity, I will solicit Spain to grant an armistice in the name of humanity. I pray you, pending the result of this step, to dignify to suspend all extreme resolutions."

President McKinley, it is alleged, replied:

"Out of respect for your Holiness, we will wait, wishing for the success of your endeavor."

\$100 Reward \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

J. N. Harriman, a broker in New York and Savannah, died suddenly while dressing at his sister's home in New York to-day.

The New England Methodist Conference voted to-day in favor of equal representation of lay and clerical delegates in the general conference.